Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 HEW-04 AID-05 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AF-08 ARA-06 NEA-10 /123 W
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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
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INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY BONN
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AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PLAB, ILO, FR SUBJECT: ILO DIRECTOR GENERAL'S REPORT ON ARAB-ISRAELI ISSUE

REF: STATE 4508

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1. FROM SEVERAL PREVIOUS DISCUSSIONS WITH GABRIEL VENTEJOL, GOF DELEGATE TO THE ILO, WE KNOW THAT HE SHARES THE U.S. VIEW REGARDING THE NEED TO "CLOSE THE BOOK" WITH A GB ACCEPTANCE OF DG'S NOVEMBER REPORT AND IS PREPARED TO ACTIVELY SUPPORT THIS APPROACH. FURTHERMORE VENTEJOL BELIEVES AS WE DO THAT CONDEMNATION WITHOUT PRIOR INVESTIGATION CONSTITUTES A VIOLATION OF DUE PROCESS. HE IS PREPARED, HOWEVER, TO EMPHASIZE

DUE PROCESS. HE IS PREPARED, HOWEVER, TO EMPHASIZE THE ARAB'S RIGHT TO FILE A COMPLAINT AGAINST ISRAEL CONFIDENTIAL

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PROVIDED THAT IT IS PROCESSED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE 1973 ILO PROCEDURES FOR HANDLING ALLEGATIONS OF DISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT.

2. VENTEJOL REPEATED THE FOREGOING AT THE RECENT FAREWELL DINNER HE GAVE FOR THE LABOR ATTACHE BY RAISING THE ISSUE HIMSELF IN THE COURSE OF CONVERSA-

TION ON THE ILO.

- 3. THE MIDDLE EAST ISSUE WAS RAISED ALSO BY JEAN CLAUDE FORTUIT, THE QUAI OFFICER IN CHARGE OF ILO MATTERS, AT A RECENT MEETING WITH LABATT BECAUSE, AS HE SAID, HE WAS NOT FAMILIAR WITH THE BACKGROUND OF THIS ISSUE. HE APPRECIATED THE INFORMATION LABATT WAS ABLE TO OFFER HIM BY DRAWING ON REFTEL, BUT RESERVED A COMMITMENT OF THE GOF POSITION PENDING DECISION BY HIS SUPERIORS. AT ONE POINT HE SEEMED SOMEWHAT CONFUSED AS TO WHETHER ONE COULD TAKE THE POSITION OF "CLOSING THE BOOK" AND AT THE SAME TIME EXPLAIN TO THE ARABS THAT THE POSSIBILITY EXISTS FOR THEM TO USE THE 1973 PROCEDURES FOR COMPLAINTS AGAINST ISRAEL. THIS OFFERED OPPORTUNITY TO REITERATE TO HIM THE ANOMALY IN THE 1974 RESOLUTION WHICH CONDEMNED ISRAEL WITHOUT PRIOR INVESTIGATION. HE SEEMED TO HAVE GOTTEN THE POINT.
- 4. FORTUIT GAVE ASSURANCES OF CLOSE COORDINATION WITH THE U.S. ON THIS ISSUE, ESPECIALLY SINCE HE ANTICIPATES NEW DEVELOPMENTS ON THIS QUESTION BECAUSE OF REPORTS HE HAS HAD ABOUT THE ARABS' INTENTION TO TAKE THE MATTER UP WITH THE DIRECTOR GENERAL BEFORE THE NEXT GB SESSION.
- 5. COMMENT: WITH THE ABU DAOUD CASE FRESH IN MIND FORTUIT WAS OBVIOUSLY TAKING EVERY PRECAUTION NOT TO COMMIT HIMSELF UNTIL A GOF DECISION HAD BEEN MADE ON CONFIDENTIAL

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HOW TO HANDLE THE CASE. WE BELIEVE, HOWEVER, THAT HIS COMMITMENT TO CONSULT WITH US WAS GENUINE AND WILL BE SUSTAINED BY HIS SUPERIORS. RUSH

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